

Extrait des conclusions du Cabinet
Extract from Cabinet Conclusions

SECRET

[Ottawa], March 21, 1957

Present

The Prime Minister (Mr. St-Laurent) in the Chair,
 The Minister of Trade and Commerce and Minister of Defence Production (Mr. Howe),
 The Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Gardiner),
 The Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Martin),
 The Minister of National Revenue (Dr. McCann),
 The Minister of Labour (Mr. Gregg),
 Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson),
 The Minister of Public Works (Mr. Winters),
 The Minister of Veterans Affairs and Postmaster General (Mr. Lapointe),
 The Minister of Finance (Mr. Harris),
 The Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys (Mr. Prudham),
 The Minister of Fisheries (Mr. Sinclair),
 The Minister of National Defence (Mr. Campney),
 The Leader of the Government in the Senate and Solicitor General (Senator Macdonald),
 The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (Mr. Pickersgill),
 The Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources (Mr. Lesage),
 The Minister of Transport (Mr. Marler),
 The Secretary of State (Mr. Pinard).
 The Secretary to the Cabinet (Mr. Bryce),
 The Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet (Mr. Martin),
 The Registrar of the Cabinet (Mr. Halliday),

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IMMIGRATION; ADMISSION OF HUNGARIAN REFUGEES FROM YUGOSLAVIA AND
 AND ITALY; IMMIGRATION FROM POLAND

29. *The Secretary of State for External Affairs* pointed out that the problem of Hungarian refugees in Austria was diminishing as the flow into that country had practically ceased and the outflow was continuing. However, with the closing of the Austrian border by the present Russian supported Hungarian government, thousands of refugees were entering Yugoslavia where there was now a total of 18,000. This had led to a serious situation and the Yugoslav government did not understand why western countries were taking more than 120,000 refugees from Austria while doing little for those in Yugoslavia. Only a few of the refugees wished to remain in that country.

Several western countries were now prepared to accept some of these people and the United States was considering the admission of 1,000. The Canadian Embassy in Belgrade had been informed that over 2,000 Hungarians wished to come to Canada, and it had been suggested that up to 1,000 might be admitted.

The Minister felt this would be a useful action to take. The Yugoslav government was standing up vigorously to the U.S.S.R., and this example had a strong influence on the present Polish government and on other satellite governments. There would be important subsidiary benefits in admitting these refugees.

30. *The Minister of Citizenship and Immigration* pointed out that there would be careful selection of any Hungarian refugees that were in Yugoslavia. Probably a better type could thus be obtained. This selection would be on the basis of those who had expressed a desire